THE

TRADES

Increase.



LONDON,

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1615.



To the Reader.

Entle Reader, I commend unto you a Pelidorus his Treasure, yet without either murther or these, but else as rich; so I confesse without leave, neither may the Authour bee offended, if what I have borrowed for my private use, I have payed to the

fernice of the Common-wealth, in that what hee intended at the instance of one, being written, is be-

howefull to enery one.

One Pithius, a crafty Sicilian, finding an honest Romane Gentleman, called Canius, Desirous of a pleafant garden in the Iland, he inuited him to his. and conducted divers poore Fishermen to attend that day his Bankes with Boates and Nets, and to bring in plenty of fifb, and to lay them at his feete: the Gueft asking what that meant, was answered by the Huxter, that it was the royalty of that place, there was more filb thereabouts then in any other streame of Syracuse; and as oft as be repaired thither, that service was due, and done unto him: The poore Gentleman was taken with the nets, and presently dealeth with the owner for the Garden, who Suffering himselfe to be much importuned, at the length was intreated to fell it full deerely; the day following, the buyer diffo-13

To the Aceder

fed to (bew the magnificence of his purchase, inuiteth divers friends to accompany him thither, and missing the concourfe and confinence of his expected homagers, the Filbermen: For there was neither Boate, Oare, Net. or Fin of fish to be feene; asketh his new neigh. bours whether it were a boliday for Fishermen, the plaine folk answered, None they knew of, & further wondted at the former refort, for they never fam before Boates or Fishermen there. In a word, hee was cofened; but it is not fo in this fishing Proiect, to the which you are now innited frankely and plainely: Nullæhic piscatorum feræ; we may alwaies fish here without feare of any Sicilian purchase, or scarcity of the Romane Macrobus his Table, where there was Piscis, but paucoru hominum: here is filb, the King of fish, the meate and Marchandize of both remote and neighbour Nations. To perswade hereto, the Authour hath dealt by may of tomparison, not thereby to derogate from other Trades, but to advance this Mysterie, and indeed, to shew that they may all receive true nourishment from this nursery. Let therefore no man take that with the left hand which is offered with the right; and though, by the opinion of some of understanding in those faculties, there is a reasonable Survey given of our Sea-trades, State, and Breeding: and out of others indgements, there is even Candor animi in all particulars, without either suspicion of any personall taxation offered, or any States blot sufspected. Yet I desire also to professe the Authours true and faire meaning herein, and to make good the oucrlights that may bee committed in the particular trawerfe, with that of the Poet, Ibi plurima nitent, Non

To the Reader.

ego paucis offendor maculis. Of the subiett it selfe I will onely say thus much, that if Aurum portans bath beene alwaies welcome, hence you may receive gold, pay the Kings duties, and doe your Countrey service; and so I leave this businesse to her owne abilities, and take my leave of you with this conclusion of them.

Nisi peracta ludunt.

of free r-

1. R.

Co parels chemicos mace is. O M. fusical r of will gradies and the state of the compact the best of the security with the personal water strong the soft Kings in speed on con Cour-contries, and this enployees of convicts that conclution



The Trades Increase.

EEING by chance a late Treatise entitled, Englands way to winne wealth, &c. and being easily inuited to reade the same, enen for the Titles sake; I must confesse my selfe so affected with the project, that I presently resoluted to

goe a fishing, withall concluding with my felfe, that as there is no fishing to the sea: so there was no fish in the sea like to the Herring: and for that my estate is but meane, and my selfe a fresh-water Souldier, it requires cost, and I would have company: the sea is large enough, and hath roome enough for vs all, and there are Herrings enough so make vs all rich: for that I say a man may runne a course this way to enrich himselfe, to strengthen his countrey, to enable his Prince more honestly then many late sea-courses can warrant vs in, more easily, more fafely, more certainly then any other

fea-course can perswade vs to whatsoeuer; I could not choose, out of my alleadgeance to my Prince, out of my duty to my Countrey, out of my loue to my neighbour, but commend these motiues concerning the same to a further consideration consisting,

In the Facilitie, Profit, and Vicor

The necessity out of want of Mariners.
Imploiment of men

As concerning thips, it is that which every one knoweth, and can fay, they are our weapons, they are our ornaments, they are our ftrength, they are our pleasures, they are our defence, they are our profit; the subject by them is made rich, the kingdome through them strong, the Prince in them mighry; in a word, by them in a manner we live. the kingdome is the king reigneth. If the fea faile, the Venetians they fall, and if we want thips, wee are diffolied. Efeps Shepheard kept his flocke well fo long as he nourished his dogge :but when the Wolfe had perswaded him that he was superfluous, hee confened him eafily of all his theepe. It is the kingdomes case in shipping, which made that Heroicall King of Denmarke at his view of the Kings Maiesties Nauy at Chatton, confest he then faw the strength of England, the greatnesse of our King, King, In fola tanta eft fiducia Nane.

Concerning the want of thipping, though to Want of thip. presse the consideration thereof be very materiall, ping. yet the poynt it felfe is so be handled very tenderly: for that as I have no pleasure to touch our owne wounds, fo I am loath in this case to discouer our owne wants; for that I feare the enemy will fooner take the advantage of them, then wee will be stirred vp thereby to make supply. To give therefore the true and faithfull subject a darke Lanthorne whereby hee may onely fee himfelfe, and he not be seene, setting the contemplation of the Kings royall Nauy afide, fo mighty, fo well conditioned, which hath fo many good Officers, &fuch worthy ouer-feers, the which is fo chargeable to his Maiesty to maintaine, as I hope it will never be fafe for the enemy to meddle withall: fetting, I fay, this afide, our Marchants Nauy confisteth in the Shippes:

The Straights.

France.
Hambrough and Middlebrough.

For The Sound.

Newcastle and had

Ifland.

New found Land.

The East Indies,

I have not named Moscowie, because we have in a manner lost that Trade, the troubles of that

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king:

prined vs thereof which wee may the more lament, because I have heard Marchants affirme. that in these vocomfortable daies of aduenturing,

it was one of their best trades, and with no small maruaile yet voliche, and most prouidently followed by the Hollanders, wee being scarred away from to good and profitable a trade, as birds from The Country Cherrie-trees, with the flew of dead carkaffes, or

being afflicted with war, and the Hollancibu e flamma.

shout of boyes, whilst other lusty and plumpe laddes have wildie beat away the children, beate ders will, petere downe the scarre-crowes, and stolen the fruite away to their great gaine, and our difgrace, there repairing nor thither aboue two shippes English in stead of senenteene of great burden for the copany formerly, besides Enterlopers, to the great decay of our Marchants and Thipping: whereas the Hollander (according to a credible report made) betweene the Warde-house and the Eastward, at Tippenie, Kilden, Olena, and the River of Cole at Colmograve, and at Saint Z icholas in Rusia, had aboue thirty fine failes of their shippes the last yeare. Happily some will say, that they made fo poote a voyage that they had better kept theinfelues at home; and it is very likely, yet the yeare before, they had fome thirty faile, and now this yeare they have againe repaired their Nauy, renewed their aduenture, and fent neere as many as neither dismaied with troubles, nor yet discouraged with losse; and to make it the more strange that they should thus preuent our trade,& increase their owne : as it was after vs that they

came thither even by leave, as it were, to gleane with our reapers, for the fields were ours, the difcouery of the Land, and Trade wholy ours, found outby Chanceler and willoubby, and euer primo Edw. 6. fince continued by our Marchants; fo againe their best Trade thither, is maintained euen by our owne commodities, as Tinne, Lead, Courfeclothes and Kerseyes, the inconvenience whereof, together with the prevention, I leave to the fensible consideration, to the sufficient ability of the Moscony Marchant, who I feare can scarce heare me, being (as is faid) gone fo farre as the Bast Indies, and if I should fend to him I feare I fhouldnot finde him at leafure, having thither transported much of the Mosconie Staple, for the Marchants that formerly vied the Moscowie Trade are now there feated, and because as wee know it is warmer there, and as they finde it, is very profitable, wee will also by compasse trauell thither our selves; that as Valeria a faire Lady, answering to Scills in the Theater, being demanded why the pressed so neere, faid; that thereby she might haue some of his felicity; so by being in their company wee may communicate with them of their good fortunes, or commune with them of our wants.

So then to beginne our journey at the noblest The straights. place for worth, and one of the newest in knowledge, the worthiest in former remembrance, the worst in present reputation, for the bottome of the Straights, the first in name, and whilome a very materiall businesse of Marchandize, I finda

this Trade but easy, and the difficulties many and new, the Trade it felfe being lessened by the circumuention of the East Indie Nauigation, which fetcheth the spices from the well head, and I finde the rest of the benefites allayed, by charges, by insultation of Pirates, and infidelity of servants, thele make presents and profite of their maisters goods abroad, fo farre that fome of the owners become lame at home: Pirates meete with that whereby others are extremely hindred, and by the charges the rest are exceedingly discouraged, so that the Marchants returne is but poore, and the Nauigation much leffened, the employment thitherward failing in neere thirty ships, and those of fuch burden that they were of defence and renowne to the Kingdome. I heard a worthy Marchant in his time Tho: Cordel of London fay, that on the first beginning of the Turkes Trade, his selfe with other Marchants, having occasion to attend the late Queens Maiesties Priny Councell about that businesse, they had great thankes and commendations for the Shippes they then builded of fo great a burden for those parts, by the Earles of Bedford and Leicester, and other Honoble personages, with many encouragements to go forward euen to vie their owne words, for the Kingdomes fake, notwithstanding it was then to their great benefite likewife, whose ordinary at the first were five for one, which I speake not out of enuy: For as all callings are, and ought to bee maintained through the profite that arifeth thereby, labours rewarded, dangers recompensed by

the sweate and sweete of gaine; nay, in our most Liberall Professions, the Divine for his spirituall nourishment hath temporall foode; the Physicion for the care of the body asketh the comfort of the purse, and the Lawyer must bee paid for his Plea; fo Marchants of all Companies the most liberall. are likewise of all sorts the most worthiest to gaine; Vt qui per vniuer sum orbem discurrunt mare circumlustrantes, & aridam, To vse that hopefull Prince in his time King Edward the fixt his words in a letter to Forraigne Princes, in fir Hugh wil- Beeing bound loubbie his behalfe: but to end my long Parenthe. for discouries fis, I speake it I say out of pitty, to see now the returne so meane, the Marchant so discouraged, the shipping so diminished: and to conclude this poynt without loue or anger, but with admiration of our neighbours the now Sea herrs, the Nati- See herren. on that get health out of their owne ficknesse; whose troubles begot their liberry, brought forth their wealth, and brought vp their strength, that have out of our leavings gotten themselves a liuing, out of our wants make their owne supply of Trade and thipping there; they comming in long after vs, equall vs in those parts in all respects of priviledge and portsthat have devanced vs fo farre in hipping, that the Hollanders have more then one hundred faile of shippes that vse those parts, continually going and returning, and the chiefest matters they do lade outward, bee English Commodities, as Tinne, Lead, and bailes of such like Stuffe as are made at Norwich.

For the rest of the Straghts, one side, as the coast

Prim, Ed.6.

coast of Barbary, serves onely for places and Citties of refuge, not after the Divine Leniticall Law, when one hath kild a man by chance there to be succoured, but after that Diabolicall Alcoran when any have robbed and murdered abroad, thither they may repaire, be in safety, and enjoy.

The other fide, as Naples, Genoa, Ligorne, and Marfeilles, employ some twenty sayle, and they most with Herring : For the Ports neere the Straights mouth as Malega, &c. wee have some store of shipping, as about thirty faile, that begin in Iune to fet forth for Ireland, to lade pipe-staues in their way to Malega, they returning Malega wines, but the Hollanders likewise haue found out that Trade, and be as busic amongst the Irish as our selves for pipe-staves; nay, by your leave they have bene too busic there of late with some of our poore Country-mens wind-pipes, but that is besides the matter heere. But for Malega it selfe the inhabitants there have through our plentifull refort thither planted more store of Vines, so that on our recourse thither, our Marchants have withdrawne themselues much from Cherris.

For Andalusia, Guantado, Lisborne, Portugall, it is easily knowne what shipping we have thereby our Trade which is but meane, consisting in Sacke, Sugar, Fruite, and West Indie drugges, which may employ some twenty ships, amongst these Cherris sackes are likewise brought into England especially in Flemish bottomes.

For the bringing in from thence any store of falt by vs it is excepted against, we being by report

furnished

Spaine.

furnished principally by the Hollanders of most of the falt that our Fisher townes doevse for the falting of Island Fish, and all other Fish for Herring and Staple-fift, as the Ports of London, Colchefter, Infroich, Yarmouth, Linne, Hull, Scarbrough, can tefifie. Albrough men were wont to bring it in, especially employing some thirty or forty faile belonging to it, of some seven or eight score, or two hundred tunne; which, for the most part, were fet on worke all the yeare long, with transporting of coales from Newcastle to France, and fetching falt from thence; which trade is now much decayed with France, by the double diligence of the Hollanders, who serue vs principally from Spaine.

For our Trade to Burdeaux it is lightly as great France. as ever it was : for I doe not thinke there was ever more Wine drunke in the Land; yet that voyage appeareth not to bee so benefitiall in regard of the small rate that the Owners and Sea-men haue thither ward. France may euery way imploy, and those most small vessels, some threescore ships

and barkes.

To Hambrough and Middlebrough there are be- Hambrough & longing fix of feuen ships to each place, and they Middlebrough. ladefor the company (and are called Appointed (bips) every theee months in all the yearc, there may be laden some thirty odde shippes, and they but 14 or 15 bodily; but as they make, as is faid, two voyages the ship, how it standeth with them, or how they will stand, it is vncertaine in regard of the manner of the altering of trading with their cloath, once for certaine the Merchant adventurers

aduenturers (hips have been alwaies form erly the fure stay of Merchants services both for their readinesse, goodnesse, and number of shipping touching the common-wealths affaires.

The Sound.

For Danske, Melain and Quinsbraugh there are not about five or fixe shippes of London, that vse those places, as many more of Ipswich, and so likewise from Hull, Linne, and Newaastle, the like proportion resorteth thither for Trade; these make some two returnes in the yeare: but in all those places the Hallanders doe abound, and bring in more commodities by five times to vs, then our owne shipping. And for Liestand, the Narve, Rye, and Renell, the Hollanders have all the Trade in a manner, the commodities from these former places being Corne, Flaxe, Sope as hes, Hempe, Iron, Waxe, and all sorts of Deale.

For Normay we have not about five, and they about forty faile, and those double or treble our

burden euen for the Citty.

Newcastle.

The next is Newsalle Trade, and for certaine the chiefest now in ese, for maintenance of shipping, for setting Sea-fearing men on worke, and tor breeding daily more, there may be about some two hundred saile of Carniles, that onely vie to serve the Citty of London, besides some two hundred more that serve the lea-coast towns throughout England, small and great, as Barques and other shipping of smaller burden, and more might easily be: for hither even to the Mines mouth, come all our neighbour countrey Nations with their Shippes continually, employing their owne shipping

shipping and Mariners. I doubt mee whether if they had fuch a treasure, they would not employ their owne shipping. The French faile hither in whole Fleetes, some forty or fifty faile together, especially in Summer, serving all their Portes of Picardie, Normandie, and Brittaine, euen as farre as Rochel and Burdeaux, with their owne shippes and failers from Newcastle : fo they of Breame, Embden, Holland and Zealand doe serue all Flaunders, and the Archdukes Countries, whose shipping is not great : these paying no more then his Maiesties owne naturall subjects, if they transport any coales; which impolition, fay our men, made our Countrey men forbeare their carrying any more coales abroade, because the Frenchmen would not gine aboue their old rate, and which was worfe, thereby they fold away their shippes, some to France, fome to Spaine, fome to other Countries; whereby fure their faults are more apparant then their ill fortune, in that though their gaine was leffe at the instant by the imposition then formerly, yet to leave the Trade, argued neither good spirits, nor great vinderstanding, nor any especeiall good minde to their Countrey. For whence I pray you came such a necessity to leave the trade, and to give over thipping, as if they could not live thereby, when presently forraigne Nations fell to the trade themselves, as is formerly set downe, and fetch away our coales on the same rearmes which we doerefuse; and by report notwithstanding the five shillings imposed, the Prench do fell in Prance one Chauldron of coales

for as much money as will buy three or foure in Newcastle, had they held to with patience either they might have brought the stranger to their price, or elle by due orderand discreet fashion opened the inconvenincy to the state, of the strangers stomack in refusing their Coale, and fetching them their felues, fo as they might eafily have wearied them, and wonne their trade and gaine againe; whereas now they are begard, our Countrey disfurnisht of shipping, the stranger keeping his covne at home, bringeth hither bare and base commodities, their shipping & Marriners are imployed and increased; and notwithstand the Argus eyes of the Searcher, carry gold away with them, alwaies bringing more in stocke with them, then they carry away in commodities.

For to make a motion to have this five shillings excused in our owne Nation, is rather profitable then necessary, in regard wee see the stranger thriueth notwithstading it, & it being done out of his Maiesties royall prerogatine, & ex cansa lucratina, as is apparant by what the stranger gaineth and the like is willingly imbraced here in other transportitions, as Beere, &c. were, me thinkes, vndurifull likewife: but to mention a motion very lately made, and generally amongst his Maiestics loy. all subjects imbraged; Might it please his Maiesty to make and ordaine a Staple Towne in England for Sea-coale, and we have many fit places, and harbours more neere and proper then that of Tinmouth, at Newsalle (and herein as I am bound in affection to with well to London, to I must, out

of many mens judgements, commend Harewich, Statio bene fida Carinis, and then lying fit for the Low-countries, and indeede open to all Nations by the benefite of the large fea which washeth it) whereby strangers shall be restrained from further Trade to Newcastle, and shal all repaire to the faid Staple Towne to fetch their Coales: Besides that it would be an exceeding benefit to his Maiesty. it would likewise helpe vs in this our complaint of want of thipping: for by this meanes our English bottomes bringing all the coales to the Staple Towne, shall not onely bee fet on worke, but inincrease will follow in shipping. The Venetiansfome time passed being out gone by those of Zant in their custome, drew the Trade from the Grecians and planted, as it were, a Colonie of Curranes at Venice, if for a little custome, and to pull downe their suspected subjects swelling mindes, they did so, why should not his Maiesty for the increase of his shipping, and the relieuing of the prostrate estate of his faithfull and humble subiccts, take this warrantable course?

Island voiage entertaineth 120 ships and barkes, Island.

New found Land employeth some 150 saile, from New found land all parts, of small ships, but with great hazard, and therefore that voyage, seared to be spoiled by hea-

then and fanage, as also by Pirates.

Now followeth the confideration of the East-East Indies. Indie Trade, into whose seas, not onely the River of Volga, as before you heard disemboqueth it self, but even the bottome of the Straights is emptied to fill yp those gulfes, and not so onely, but besides

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that

that many of our best Merchants have tra nsported their staples thither, it hath also begot out of all Callings, Professions, and Trades, many more new Merchants : then where there is increase of Merchants, there is increase of trade; where trade increaseth, there is increase of thipping; where increase of shipping, there increase of Mariners likewife: fo then rich and large East Indies. The report that went of the pleasing notes of the Swannes in Meander floud, farre furpaffing the records of any other birds in any other places whatfoeuer, drew thither all forts of people in great confluence, and with great expediation to heare, and enjoy their weet finging : when they came thither, they found in stead of faire white Swans, greedy Rauens, and denouring Crowes; and heard, in stead of melodious harmony, vntuneable and loathfome croaking : in indignation that they were so received and deceived, in stead of applauding, they hiffed; and of staying, fledde away. You are now braue East Indies, Meander floud, your trade is the finging of Swannes, which fo many iourney fo farre to enioy; God forbidde you should be found so discoloured, and we so ill fatisfied. And howfoeuer that I may be fure to auoydany detraction, whereby my nature might haueany imputation, or by calling vp more spirits into the circle then I can put downe againe, I might incurre some danger, and be taxed likewise of indifcretion, for that wee onely hitherto have complained of the want of shipping, wee defire now but herein to furuey the store, and see how

you helpe the increase: you have built more thips in your time, and greater farre then any other Merchants thips; befides what you have bought out of other Trades, and all those wholly belonging to you, there bath beene entertained by you fince you first adventured, one and twentie Thippes, besides the now intended voyage of one new shippe of seuen hundred Tunne; and happily some two more of increase. The least of all your thipping is of fourescore Tunne, all the rest are goodly shippes, of such burthen as never were formerly vsed in Merchandise; the least and meanest of these last is of some hundred and twentie Tunne, and fo go vpward even to eleven hundred Tunne: you have fet forth some thirteene voyages, in which time you have built of thefe, eight new thippes, and almost as good as built the most of the relidue, as the Dragon, the Hector, Gre. fo that at the first appearance you have added both strength and glory to the kingdome by this your accession to the Nauy: But where I pray you are all these shippes? foure of these are cast away, of the which one was of three hundred Tunne, another of foure hundred, the third of three hundred, and the fourth of eleven hundred; two more are docked vp there as Pinaces to trade vp and down : the rest are either imployed in the Trade in the Indies, or at home out of reparations ; which if true, if the kingdome should have need of them on any oceasion it shall surely want their service; and so then there is not onely no supply to the Nauythis way, but hurt even to the whole kingdome, the woods being

being cut downe, and the shippes either loft, or not seruiceable. Surely stories can shew vs, which we may reade in the courses of common-wealth, how tollerable, nay how laudible it is in all states, to enlarge commerce. Merchants whom wee should respect, can tell vs of the casualties which not onely the shippes, but their estates are subiect to by aduentures. Marriners whom we must pitty, can teach vs of the ordinary dangers not onely that shippes and goods, but their lives are subject to by fea: I must not then exprobate that to them which is to be imputed to the fea; nor are they to be blamed out of reason for that which deserveth. in humanity, commisceration; nor is England bounded by our Horizon, to goe no further then we fee: we have learned long fince, that Mercaturasi leuius sordida, si magna splendida: the ftranger the Countrey, the greater the aduenture; the more famous our Nation, the more worthy the Merchant. Before we were euen Horace Writ, Currit Mercator ad Indes; loatn then I am to borrow that faying of Demostenes on his courting of Lais, to pay it to the Indian trade, by alledging, that Non tanti Emam penitentiam, onely having now in common that Roman prouiso, Ne quid detrimenti resp. Capiat. Let vs examine that which may move patience, that our woods are cut downe, and the shippes either lost, or not seruiceable; our woods I say, cut downe in extraordinary manner, neither doe the shippes dye the ordinary death of shippes. Our woods extraordinarily cut downe, in regard of the greatnesse of the shipping, which doth

doth as it were devoure our Timbe. I am able out of sufficient testimony to affirme, that since the Indian Trade, and meerely through their building of their ships of so great burthen, and their repairing (the building notwithstanding beganne but frue yeares (ince) that Timber is raifed in the Land five shillings, and more, in the load, nay almost not to be had for money, which the company (no question) being sencible of, very wifely seeke to helpe themselues in, by building of Ships in Ireland for their feruice, yet it feemeth their incouragement that was, is but necessitouse in regard by their owne faying, besides the hazard, the charges are little leffe; and which is worfe, that kinde of timber is but vntoward for that vie, beeing fo extreame heavy, that a thip of a small burden draweth much water. If in fine yeares space their buil. ding, together with their repairing of shippes almost equal to building, beget such a scarcitie, what will a little continuance bring forth? Bring forth I cannot fay ought, but a prination will follow even of all our timber wood. The Kings Nauy mult be maintained, other Merchants of lower ranke must have shipping, and the sea-trade may increase, and then either wee must trade without Thipping, or make thips without timber.

When the Norman Conquerour having subdued the most part of the kingdome, passed from Essex into Kent, which then made head against him, the Kents having by the advice of their politique Bishop and their stout Abbot, cut downe great boughes, and with them in their armes marched

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towards

towards the Conquerour, whereby, besides the nouelty of the fight, the Army appeared double as big, william himselse so conceining it, as also amazed to fee woods walker more feared and difcontented with that fight, then otherwise affured with his former successe, condescended to what demands fo cuer were made by those people, to have such weapons laid downe, and to gaine such ingenious subicets; whereby, to their eternall benefire, and credite, their persones were neuer in bondage, nor their Lawes altered. In this their Land stratageme, I fee our Sea Arrs, in that and these woods being the farall instrument of our fortunes, boughes of Trees kept the Kentifb-men out of servitude, when they held them in their hands, and but for thew, their bodies will keepe vs in liberry when they containe vs, and are for feruice, and by their mouing on the water they will amaze both French and Spanish, and whomsoever, and keepe them, and all others, from comming neere vs : Out of which provident fore-fight, our most worthy Princes formerly raigning, have made diuers Lawes in favour of Timber trees, and our most noble King hath provided thereto with new accessions for the preserving and increasing of them; but that a parricide of woods should thus be committed by building of thips, it was never thought on by any of our royall solons, and therefore there was no prouiso for it: Nay, this inconmenience was fo little suspected, that our faid famous Princes have provided cleane contrary, with great bounty and indulgence, having enconraged

35 Hen.8.17. 13. Eliz.25. Forbidding by proclamation the building with Timber.

raged by reward out of their owne purses the builders of great thips; as bestowing on the builders five shillings on the Tunfor every Tunne that is builded aboue one hundred Tun in a ship, so ne. ceffary did the Prince thinke his maintainance of Thipping, the accession thereof consisting much in their greatnesse, to the honour and safety of the Kingdome, & fuch vie he made account he should have of them; whereas now this way he contributeth to the spoile of his woods, to the losse of the Thips, and to the hurt of the kingdome: I hard a Ship-wright fay on the loffe of the Trads Increase, that if you ride forty miles from about London, you could not finde sufficient Timber to build such an other, it was a ship of eleuen hundred Tunne, for beauty, burthen, strength, and sufficiency, surpaffing all Marchants thips whatfoeuer, but alas thee was but thewen, out of a cruell deftiny thee was ouertaken with an vntimely death in her youth, and ftrength, being deuoured by those Iron wormes of that Country, that pierced her heart, and brake many a mans withall, memorable in her misfortune, onely redounding to the Commonwealthes loffe; for as for the Marchants, though I pitty their aduentures with all my heart, yet in this their part of loffe was least, for all their goods were on shore, and she had brought aboundance out of the Mesha Fleete, which the did both tith and toll, and thankes be to God, they are more then fauours by what is returned from her, and more then that often, by the grace of God, will come from her to the Marchants gaine.

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The like vntimely fall had the other three of great burthen, gallant thips, never having had the fortune to fee their natine foile againe, of the honour to doetheir Country any feruice, in respect of all other thips that wander ordinarily to other Countries, therefore I may justly say that they die not the ordinary death of thips, who commonly have some reft, and after long service die full of yeares, and at home, much of their Timber feruing againe to the same vse, besides their Ironworke, and the rest otherwise serviceable, and not in this bloudy and vnseasonable fashion, rather in deed as coffins full of live bodies, then otherwife as comfortable thips; for the rest that live, they come home for crazed and broken, fo maimed and vimanned, that whereas they went out ftrong. Our fhips are they returne most feeble , and whereas they were in the natives carried forth with Christians, they are brought

faine to take fapply the wants of our to bring home their thippes.

of the Indian home with Heathen what the profits are to the Countries to Marchants, for to great aniaduenture I know not, I am fureamends cannot cafily be made for fo great dead Seamen a loffe euen in this point which is our fpeciall fubich now forwast of moods & spoile of thipping. I And thus we have sirveyed all the fountaines whence our shipping especially doth flow, which Before I hurvy, I remember me of a new fpring in Greeneland, that bathed fome flips and burdeheth them likewife with her owne naturall fraight, with the which the Whale is fo richly loaden withall, this place is but of late frequented fo efpecially, and hath employed this last yeare some foureteene ships, and more would do but that the poore Fishermen, who though they knew the place before, yet being belike afraid of the Whale, The Molco are now swallowed up in the Whales Ships.

I cannot find any other worthy place of forraine an inhibition anchorage; for the Bermudas we know not yet what from all others they will doe; and for Virginia wee know not well there, what to do with it, the present profite of thosenot employing any store of Shipping, & for this other it is yet but Embrion, no question a worthy enterprise and of great consequence, much about the Marchants leuell and reach, and fure in regard of the great expences they have beneat, & the poore returne that is made, they are much to be regarded and commended for holding out fo long, I could wish that as many of the Nobility, and Gentry of the Land have willingly embarqued themselves in the labour, fo the rest of the Subjects, might be vrged to help to forme and bring forth this birth not of an Infant, but of a mainay, of a people, of a kingdome, wherin are many kingdomes. When Alomene was in travel with Hercules, the Poets fay Inpiter was faine to be Mid-wife; and fure as we have the countenance of our earthly Iupster, lo we are humbly to emplore the propitious presence of our heauenly God towards the perfection of this fo great a worke, & fo leaving to meddle further with what we have nothing to do, let vs returne to our Ships our of whose entertainmets we may either reioyce at their increase, or by other observations preuent their decay; & because we proposided to our selues the necessity of our home fishing out of the want of our Shipping, we will affirme that by this our **superficial!**

haue procured

fuperficiall view we find a decay thereof, and that out of two reasons; because that in places formerly frequented, our shipping lesseneth, and in places new found, they do not succeed: we have given reasonable probability of these already without any pleasure, and there is no need of repetition, and it will be more apparant in the preferring of this desire of Fishing, out of the examination of the next inducement thereto, which is want of

Want of Mar- Marriners.

riners.

Marriners they vie the weapons, Thippes; they weare the ornaments, shippes, out of them ships, are strength and pleasure: otherwise they are but pictures that have but a fhew, or are as carkaffes bereft of life. It is the good Pilot that bringeth the shippe to the hauen: It is the wife Maister that gouerneth the men in the ship; but without men the maister cannot gouerne, nor the shippe goe: What is a Leader without an Army, and that of Souldiers? the same reason of sea-men in a shippe; the body must have life, bloud and flesh : the same are sea-men to a shippe. Columbus found out the new world, Drake brought home the hidden treafure in a Ship; but they were both prouided well of men, and gouerned well: therefore as Shippes are manned, and as Maisters vse their men, so ordinarily their Shippes succeede. As for this last matter of gouernment, it is besides our businesse, we will leave that to who it concerneth. Now the though we cannot vse thipping without men, and therefore they must goe together; yet wee must confider the one after the other, and having looked

ked into the strength of the one, we wil view in the the state of the other, in the which we will not bee long, for that the subject is vnpleasant, and our tale is halfe told already: for the consequence is necessary. As Shippes are employed, so men are busied.

For Moscow, it is apparant that the shipping thitherward is decayed; so neither Marriners are well imployed that way, nor any Sea-men almost bred: the Fleete that went ordinarily thitherward entertained three or soure Nouices in a Ship, and so bred them vp Sea-men, which might make in the whole happily some sourescore men yearely, which was well for their parts. Now then there were some since hundred Marriners and Saylers imployed withall: so then this way there is want.

The like reason of the Straights in their proportion, the very bottome of the Straights failing in thirty Shippes, maketh yearely seuen hundred Seamen and Marriners at the least, seeke some other courses which were that way imployed, besides the voder growth hindred of some hundred and forty Seamen yearly, and but that I am loath to renew our complaints, I would say it were great pitty of this so great an ebbe of our men in these seas, for that besides the voyages were of encouragement even to the Frie, all in generall commonly went and returned in good health, a shippe seldome loosing a man in a voyage; nay, I heard a proper maisser of a shippe say, that in eighteene yeares, wherein he frequented those parts, he lost

not two men out of his Ship, and whatfocuer may bee imputed to the incontinency of our men, or the vnwholefomenesse of the women in other places, surely in those parts I heare the common fort of women to be as dangerous, and the generallity of our men as idely disposed.

Naples, Ligorne, Marfeilles, and those parts of the Straights may employ some foure hundred

men, and breed of these about forty.

Malega employing besides some soure hundred men, the employment that may come by all other places in Spaine and Portugall, not arriving to foure hundred men in regard of the pouerty of the trade, and the superfluity of the commodities, it being indeed rather entertained because they will not be idle, otherwise then that they are well busied, like foode that keepeth life, not else maintaineth ftrength, yet it hath a pretty mystery in it, that though the gaine fcarce provideth for the Marrchants liuelihood, yet the commodities make the Land merry; and howfoeuer I am of the opinion that the former hostile state busied more fea-men then twice the Trade of Spaine can nourifh, yet I differ from those that would rather by reprifally make fouldiers, then by nourishing commerce encrease Marriners.

Our Shipping into France, is not such as it hath beene, but nourseth many yong men, or rather sheweth them the sea, and may busie some seuen or eight hundred men.

Hambrough and Middlebrough alwaies have bene counted the ancient Mountaines of Marri-

ners for the States service on all occasions, being ready at hand, and therefore as we wished well to their Shippes, so wee desire encouragement to the menthere may be belonging to their employment some foure or sine hundred Marriners and Sea-men.

Norway and the Sound, may breed and empley fome foure hundred men, those parts being most frequented, those commodities most brought in

by the Hollanders.

Newcastle voyage is the next, and if not the onely, yet the especiall nursery, and schoole of sea-men; for, as it is the chiefest in employment of fea-men, fo it is the gentlest and most open to land men; they neuer grudging in their smalest vessels to entertaine some two fresh men or, learners: whereas, to the contrary, in the Shippes that voyage to the South-ward, or otherwise, farre out of the Kingdome, there is no Owner, or Maister, that will, ordinarily entertaine any land-man, be her neuer fo willing, as being bound by their Charter-partie to the Marchant, as they fay, not to carry but sufficient men, and such as know their labour, and can take their turne at the helme toppe and yard, it is by great fauour that others flip in, and they very likely, and therefore whereas in former aduentures I allow them the bringing vp of two or three men in a voyage, it is in generall to bee vnderstood, that they were first trained vp, either amongst the Coliers in this journey, or elfe came out of Fishermens Boates, and vet but nouices to those Seas and Saylors,

for then this Trade, without all exception, admits of all forts that never fee the sea before, whereby are yeerely bred and employed, out of the great store of shippes busied therein, some two or three thousand people; a great comfort to youth, and men that want employment, and a great stay to to the Sea state, that shall have need on all occasions of their helpe: I have shewed my good will enough, being so private, to surther their employment, and being so ignorant I must not bee bolder.

Island entertaineth, asketh and nourisheth fome two thousand fine hundred men, after the number of shipping and barques set downe, and

ordinarily employed.

New found Land may breed and employ fome fifteene hundred; but feeing what discouragements they have, what casualties they are subject

to, we may judge of their incertainety.

Out of the extraordinary number of all people busied in these two former employments, it is no vnnecessary observation, that in any Trade in particular, our coale excepted, our especial employment, nourishment, and encrease of Seamen, is euen this in forraine fishing, which I hope will prove but petty, when it commeth to be balanced with our home fishing.

The last Consistance of Shipping propounded, was that of the East Indies, which though yongest, was found in shew and state to have ouer-topped all the rest; as a bird that maketh her selfe gay with the feathers of all other sowles,

hauing

having borrowed; nay, having bought the best Shippes out of other Trades to honour their voyage, and plumed even Constantinople her selfe, of her shipping, therefore that men are entertained extraordinarily in this voyage, it is apparant out of the greatnesse of the Shipping, the entertainement of them increasing, it should be a consequent that Sea-men encrease this way, but that wee may not by ambages tryumph in their losse, or our calamities, wee see this way that our Shippes perish, and therefore our men they shrinke; nay, though Shippes come home, yet they leave the men behind; so in this voyage, there is a two-fold way towards our want of Marriners.

In that Shippes, nay great Shippes, are extraordinarily subject to bee cast away, and then there must bee losse likewise of men; In that though they come, they come home emptied of their men.

By the losse of foure Shippes, wee have lost at the least foure hundred and fifty men, and in the aduenture of some three thousand that have beene employed since that voyage beganne, wee

haue lost many aboue two thousand.

Dauid refused to drinke of the Well of Betheleme, which the strong men had setched, when he thirsted and longed, because it was the price of bloud. This Trade, their commodities are at a sarre deeper rate, being bought with so many mens liues.

But happily some will say that the greatest losse E 2 of of these men was at the beginning, when as all things are difficult; but fure, our men framed to a better composition of themselues, to the variety of this climate, and heartned to the tediousnes of this voyage, haue better endured and overcome those difficulties, and returned more comfortably: heerein the latest voiages will enforme vs best, and we will instance in the three last that with with min portion

haue made returnes.

The Trades Increase.

The first was vnder Sir Henry Middleton, whose former gouernement in that kinde of voyage, had approved his wisedome and moderation, his ship was that famous and infortunate veffell of cleuen hundred Tun, his company in that ship hauetwo hundred and twenty men, after foure yeares errours vp and downe the fea, wherein hee vnderwent many constructions at home, and ouercame strange difficulties abroad; having to his eternall reputaion of pollicy and courage, out-gone the perfiduous Turke, and reuenged their barba. rous wrongs, to the Marchants gaine, and the kingdomes repute: after he, and his had, I fay, bene accompanied with many forrowes, with labour, hunger, heate, fickenesse, and perill, that worthy Commander, with many a sufficient Marriner, with the whole number (ten excepted) of his live Cargachon perished in that Alcedama, in that bloudy field of Bantam.

Nicholas Dounton, the Vice-admirall of that Fleete returned, and of seventy hee carried forth, brought home some twenty; the rest, their labours and lines were facrificed to that implacable East Indian Neptune, the Darling of that voyage Captaine Pe. is yet there, nor neuer will the maister, an appro- fcaping impriued fea-man, returne, with divers others.

The fecond was that of Captaine Saris, and Captaine Towersonne men formerly exercised in knowne counthose iourneys, and therefore thought meete to trey is miles command, whether they were short of the opinion conceived of them orno, I know not; if they and finding a were, I should arribute part of the losse of their small Canow, men to their infufficiency, but that the destiny of his shirt, and a that countrey chalengeth it allto it felfe: Captaine mast of a stick, Tower fon who first returned, having left behinde and so recourhim of some hundred and twenty carried forth, fourescore and fine, and Captaine Saris of some 90 and odde not having brought home about two or three and twenty: the Thomas of that voyage, which went forth with some 60 men, was brought By flaying an home by way of a wrecke, you know the destructi. Armen in thip, on of men that name importeth.

The third, that of Captaine The. Best, Admirall of the Fleete, a man whose former behauiour in the Indies, and fea-affaires, drew into that iourney with great ex. commanding pectation, and which is very feldome and hard, dewe from his carriage in this employment went beyond them plaine that great expectation of a reposed demeanour, made honoraindulgent to his men, vigilant in his charge, his ble conditions courage like to his cariaage, and his fortune aboue for the merall he checked the Indians, hee mated the Portu- He encounted gals: those honour our King, these feare his for- red foure Galces, heesetled a trade in Cambaya, reduced things might be some in order in Bantam, brought riches home for two thousand. the Merchants, and kept reputation for himselfe; men.

merton that efonment at Moha, iourneying in that vnby night, got. to the sea-side,

wherin at leaft were fome 400 men bound to the Port, hee dealing, and

yes.

Yetfor all this he had, Nemetin in dorfe, the Indian vengeance haunted his shippe euen to our coasts, of some hundred and eighty men vnder him when he went forth, depriving him of one hundred and odde men for euer, some soure or five and twenty of the remainder are left on the desperate account of men for the countries facteridge, onely thirty are returned. In two great feafights with the Portugalles and their Gallions, which continued foure whole dayes, hee loft not foure men, it was not then the fortune of the war; neither out of want of ought that victuals & good government could affoord, imputations to some other voyages, nor had the length of time any fault, part of others bane, he having made the voyage in shorter space then any other ordinarily; the dogged starre of those clymates, the stench of those countries were his fatalitie.

As one Swallow maketh no Summer, so it is not much to bee maruailed, that in all these voyages some one shippe hath beene but scarred, and not elsemuch hurt in this iourney; she indeed but even seeing those coasts, and presently on so great a glut of our men and ships, with the which it seemeth the sea and land was then busied and full, when as Captaine Newport returned with little losse, and in short time.

Now then as we have said before, that the Indian shippes dye not the ordinary death of shippes, and that we have shewen likewise before, that men do dye extraordinarily in this voyage, which is almost incredible; they are distressed likewise after.

their death, and that is very apparant by the mear account made to their heires of what thidy had an poffession in their life time, by what should others wife be due to them in their purchase, bythe calant mities of their wives, children and friends afeer; their death. Fabulous and phantastical legends: haue beene made of the restlesse death of many concealed extortioners, and murderers whose ghosts have been faid to walke in paine and pennance: on the contrary, how many line bodies, indeed the true images of the diseased, complaine one the death, call for the due of their friends, fathers, husbands, children, kinsfolkes and creditors, poore Ratlife, Lime-house, Blacke wall, Shadwell, wapping, and other Sea townes abroad can fensibly tell: the Merchant he is at home, and therefore he cannot embezell the goods abroad; and it is likely that what is directly proued due is paid here to theirs, then is the calamity of that iourney more fearefull, because out of his owne ill planet it maketh fo many miserable. How this is recompenced it is neither my purpose, nor my part to examine : for certaine there is want of trade, the Hollander would grow greater, if hee had all his trade in his ownehands: the Kings customes are now advanced, this way Shipwrights are fet on worke, which must be maintained, and other Mechanicall trades live hereby, with a number of poore busied : and furely he that would not have the poore to live, I would he might begge; and he that would not advance the Kings profite in all liberall manner, and merchandise is a faire meanes,

meanes, would he might dye : and he that regardech norhis countries good, it is pitty hee was euer borne. I defire not, like a fecond Phaeton, to make a combustion; all that I would enforce at this time is, that in this trade our men are confumod, and thereby more want of marriners : let the Straights men, and the Lisborne merchants complaine of their hinderance this way, and fay their tr fine before was more beneficiall by much, and neore certaine to the Cuftome-house then the Indies be now. Let others report that the foundation of this trade was layd in the ruine of a Carick thatir lames Lancaster tooke in the first voyage, and that the maine of this iollity proceeded of the forced trade driven with the Mecha Fleete by Sir Henry Middleton, whereby divers durft not goe presently after to the Straights, as the Angell, and other shippes, out of rumour of revenge for violence offered by our Indian men to the Turkes pounds worth in the red fea. Let the comon people fay that their commodities are vnnecessary, aske the Trades men, nay all men, what they have cheaper: looke into the price of victuals how it rifeth out of their great prouisions. Let the whole land mnrmure at the transport of treasure, and bring in Charles the fifth his opinion, speaking to the Portugals of their trade to the East Indies, who said that they were the enemies to Christendome, for they caried away the treasure of Europe to enrich the heathen: let goe the speech of the small reliefe thereby to the poore, and they whom it doth concerne may fuggest the Indian home state and particular profite

Wherein hee was his owne Trade-caruer T0000000. of goods,

Hall Chron anne 15 Hen.8.

profite: once I am sure, that as Vespatian the Emperour sayd, hee had rather saue one Citizen, then kill one thousand enemies; so his royall Maiesty had ratherhaue his subjects then custome for them, and you see plainly that his Maiesties subjects, our countrey-men, sall this way, and this way is want of Marriners.

Greenland ships, which before I had forgotten, entertaine some Marriners, and helpe to breed others, as of latebeing fifteene saile, employ some source hundred men, and may breed of these some fourescore, which helpe some hat, and may be by reasonable encouragement farre more benefi-

ciall, if it be more publicke.

And thus we have run ouer the material trades. flate and condition in them of fea-men, in all in generall we conceive want, in regard of the small increase of what is needfull to furnish this great Machine, this goodly engine of our fea-state, either by supporting their own members (the Newsaftle trade excepted) or all joyned together, to make vp the great body of our lands Nauy, witnesse that generall presse that was made of men from all the coasts, to man the ships that were to attend that matchlesse pearle, that pearlesse Princeffe the Lady Elizabeth her grace, with her hope. full and happy mate, the Illustrious Palatine, at their departure; and our nakednesse that would appeare if there were sudden occasion to furnich some fixe of his Maiesties shippes: all which maketh for the furtherance of our proposition of Fishing.

The

- 34

The third motive hereto was want of Employ-

As the Colmographers in their Mappes, wherein they have described the habitable Globe, vie to fet downe in the extremity of their Cards, on vnknowne Regions and Clymates, that beyond those places they have noted, there is nothing but fands without water, full of wilde beafts, or congealed feas, which no ship can faile, or Seithyan live in, so may I write in the Mappe of employment, that out of it, without it, is nothing but fordide idlenesse, base condition, filling the minde with a hundred Chymeraes and groffe fantafies, and defiling both body and minde with diffolute courses and actions, like fat ground neglected, that bringeth forth a thousand forts of weedes, or vnprofitable hearbes; and with this difease is our land affected, our people infected; whereby fo many come to an vntimely and reprochfull death in the land, and many more live fo diffolutely, and fo wickedly on the feas, I doe not thinke that in any two kingdomes in Europe there are so many Iustized for Murderers and Felons yearely, as in England; and aboue all Nations wee are most infamous for Pyracies; wherein, against the Law of Sea-robbers, or at least besides ordinary example of any other Nation, we forbeare not to prey on our owne Countrey-men; nay, wee forbeare not our owne acquaintance: fure the want of grace. and feare of God, is much in most of these: but that men should leave their wines, children, and family, and rebell against their owne soueraignes lawes lawes, and make warre on all people, proceedeth more out of want of meanes, want of employment at home; befides how many that have more grace, and the same wants, are straightned in their Fortunes, notwithstanding their abilities of body and minde; and are, as it were, 'damned to pouerty; and more then all these that have a little grace, and lesse meanes, that sleade the loathsome life of

begging.

Now if the meanes may bee found, nay if the meanes long found already be offered vnto vs, to redeeme vs out of this difaster, why should wee not ynderstand them? why should wee not apprehend them? why should we not bee industrious in them? We are not those rebellious Israelites that could not fee the flowing land, much leffe enioy it: we have this place in possession, and if my Ephemerides faile me not, I dare fay, N stam inter eum artem, that shall not onely take away all these discontents and miseries, that want of employment breedes in any of our infortunate countreymen, but that shall also repaire our Nauy, breede fea-men aboundantly, enrich the fubiect, aduance the Kings custome, and affure the kingdome; and all this in our owne feas, by fishing, and especially out of Herring; towards the which, apparant neceffity having hitherto made vs the way, we are to perswade you to follow in it by to the

Profite, and
Vic of this Fishing.

The Facility, in that the meanes are in our owne hands.

The Place, our owne feas.

The meanes in our owne hands, in that we have all things that shall be evsed about this businesse, growing at home in our owne land (Pitch and Tarre excepted) wheras the Hollander having nothing growing in their owne land for it, is faine to go to sixe several Countries, and these remote, and vnder divers Princes, to surnish themselves, and doe surnish themselves meerely with the barter of Fish and Herring taken out of our seas.

Then the place is not farre remound, if in our owne Scas, if in his Maiesties dominions, on the coast of England, Scotland, Ireland is this principall sisting: for by the report of many exercised in this mystery, and the relation of two especially, painfull herein by their Treatises, Hitchcockes and Gentlman.

The Herrings first, and towards the ending of Summer, shoot out of the deepes on both sides of Scotland and England, and begin to do first so, on the Scots coasts at Mid-summer, when is the first and worst fishing.

The second and best is about Bartholmeride, from Scarbrough in Yorkeshire till you come to the Thames mouth.

The third from the Thames mouth through the narrow seas, but not so certaine, for that extreame weather maketh them shoote on both

fides .

fides of Ireland; likewise on the Coast of Ireland is good fishing for Herring, from Michaelmas to

Christmas.

On the North-west seas of England, ouer against Carliele, about wirkentowne, is good fishing for herring from Barthelmemtide till foureteene dayes after Michaelmas; fo then it appeareth by thefe reports, that this fishing for Herring is especially on his Maiesties Dominions, and to this end aske the ancient custome of the Hollanders and Flemming, that before they beganne their fishing for Herring, craued leave of Scarbrough aforefayd, which easily obtained, they then laid their Nets; and howfoeuer it pleafeth his Maiefty to allow of his royall Predecessours bounty, in tollerating the neighbour Nations to fish in his streames, yet other Princes take more straighter courses; for whereas till Christmas on the coast of Norway called the Mall Strand, all strangers doe fish, as Hitchcockes writeth, they then paid a youhendale, on every Last of Herring, to the King of Demmarke; and I can likewise remember, that certaine of our Marchants of Hull had their goods and Shippes taken away, and themselves imprisoned, for fishing about the Ward-house, and not paying the duety imposed on by the King of Denmarke.

The place, our Seas likewise, for other necessary and profitable fishing, on the Coast of Lancathire from Easter to Midsummer, for Cod, or Hakes, twixt Wales and Ireland, from whit souther whill Saint lame-tide, for Cod,

and Ling about Padform, within the Lands end of Seuerne, from Christmas to middle Lent, and in feuen or eight seuerall places more about the Coasts, and within his Maiesties Dominions, the which is largely set downe by Hitchcockes.

Now besides this, fishing treasure lyeth easily to bee found in our owne Seas, what good Harbours fitting thereto lye open to vs in our owne Coasts, as Colchester, Harmich, Ipswich, Yarmouth, with a number of other, set downe painfully by Gentleman, together with the commodities they affoord for Timber, Workemanship, furnishing,

and harbouring Buffes, Nets, and Men.

As the Hauens lye open to vs, as the Seas bee our owne, and as we have all things almost fitting for fuch a bufineffe at home, and naturally, fo that nothing may bee wanting to vs but our felues; the Art is well knowne to vs likewife, Maisters for Buffes may be had from Tarmonth and Sould, and the rest of the Coasts downe the River; vse maketh Fishermen, and these places affoord store of Seafaring men for the purpose. In Orfard Hauen and Alborough be many good Fishermen, whose abilities exercifed in Buffes, would (by Gentlemans. report) put downe the Hollander; the like may be fayd of Sould, Dunwich, Walderswich, which breede Fishermen: In all these, and many other places, is this rich Art knowne, but not vsed; in all these, and all other, the Hollanders swimme like Elephants, we wading like Sheepe; wee keepe the Bankes and Shoales, when as they are in the depth. Belides.

Besides, to encourage vs the more, the charges are not great, the paines are not great, the time is not long, the hazard is nothing at all this is very apparant, and exactly fer downe in Gentleman his Treatife, whom I shallbut obscure to contract,

neither is holong.

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The next motive to this filling, was that of profite; wherein'if ever it were true, that a good caufe maketh a good Oratour, heere is a fubicet to enable all meane Rhetoricians: Euery man almost is taken with the attention to profite; love doth much, but mony doth all; heere is money, heere is profite in aboundance, and divers waies; in aboundance, for that the whole charge of a Buffe; with all furniture and appurtenances, betweene tweene fixty thirty and forty Laft, will cost about fine hundred and eighty pounds, the charges for keeping her a whole Sum-tunne. mer at Sea, may bee some three hundred three fcore and five pounds, the whole Summer filleth her three times, with making one hundred Last of Barrels, amounteth to one thousand pounds; whereby, allowing one hundred pounds for weare of thips, and reparations of nets, there is gained five hundred fixty five pounds by one Buffe in one yeare, and this is after ten pounds the Laft. which was fo rated in Hitchcockes time, which is fome thirty three yeares agoe; the Hollander now felling them for fifteene, twenty pounds, and vpward the Tunne, at Danfke: Hence one may gather of the great gaine, that even rifeth to a priuate purle, by this fishing, with small a adventure, Buffes being the maine (and those likely likewise

to continue, by Gods grace, some twenty yeares) so then her charges returned for keeping her at some the first yeare also she quitteth her owne selfe, and there is, I say, sue hundred fixty sue pounds, as long as she liueth afterwards Declare; I would faine know, not desiring to bee too curious in a strange Common wealth, burrather to inuite my Country-men into this society, what Trade in the Land did euer in his strength promise so much; howsoever, never any, I am sure, performed so much, so easily, so continually.

When Antiochus, in his shew to Hanniball of his glorious Army in battell range, his Elephants being most richly adorned, and all his souldiers invery braue and costly harnesse and abiliments, willing to draw some acknowledgement from him of his power and strength, asked his opinion of it: the warlike souldier replyed againe, that it was an Army able to satisfie the most couctous enemy: No question, though the Carahaginian noted the people of cowardise, yet it would require great charges, and cost some bloud to ouer-

In the best Trade in apparance now that is (and in those Countries certains there are infinite riches) you see how remote it is, and with what cost of purse, and losse of people followed, yet without such satisfaction; Here is wealth enough to satisfie the most thirsty thereof, without much cost, without any spoyle; even almost Salmada spolia, if not fine sudore, sine Sanguine, and not for a time but permanent; Albother Trades are see-

ched.

ched, as it were, out of a Well, out of the Deepe, I meane from farre, heere is a meere spring which is in superficie hard by vs, out of our owne inexhaustable Sea, from the euerlasting store of Herring, whence onely the Hollander reapeth a million of gold yearely; besides, the most gainefull fishing with other vessels for Cod and Ling, Hitchcockes long agoe discouered the same, his booke is extant; and fore-named Gentleman hath very plainely fet downe, and in very probable and particular manner disclosed the mysteries thereof, and the conceipt the Hollanders bath of it, calling it their Chiefest Trade and gold Mine: and the confidence they have in it, as laying out their childrens mony given them by friends, in adventuring in Buffes, and fathers likewife putting in their childrens portions into Busses, presume of the encrease that way, and so proportion a summe certaine out of that gaine, in a certaine time, as also that there is for Orphanes laid out, and so encreafing that way for the maintainance of them; heere then we may get treasure in aboundance, and certainely, and besides the gaining of it, we shall stay the vnnaturall tyde of the departure and transportion of our gold; a mischiefe which not with standing our royall King was fensible of, in the raising of it, yet it still departeth with Vestigia nullaretror/um, out of the lazy and difgracious Merchandize of our Coasters, that give away our coine to the stranger for our owne fish, which vnseasonable and emproficable humour of Caupenacion is this way to be diverted onely. Bur

But some will say, that our men are not so apt, nor disposed thereto, which cannot be, in regard of the store of Fishermen that our Coasts nourisheth, which liue as hardly, and take as great paines in their fashion, onely wanting the vse of Busses, and seeme to reioice at the name of Busses, and may on very good reason; for that this Bussessishing is more easy then any other kind of fishing, which now wee vse in Crapers and Punts, as being armed this way better against all weathers, which other suffer and perish in, in other vessels yearely; and as their prouisions are better, and the dangers lesse, so their paines are likewise lesse.

Againe, who will not bee exceedingly encouraged with the benefite of fuch gaine, in so honest a manner, when once the sweete is tasted of, when as otherwise our Countrimen runne such labourious and desperate courses, especially out

of want.

Others will say that our Land will not veter them in any quantity, in regard that the seeding on herring, and sith, doth not taste vs, nor is so received as amongst those Holland and Sealand Mermaids: and sure, if those necessary Lawes provided by our advised State, for the keeping of sish daies cleane through our Landwere better observed, it would be more wholesome for our bodies, and make much for the advancing of our sish and plenty of other victuals; besides the deerenesse of our sish victuals, which more hurteth our purse then our appetites, for that the price is within this 20. yeares almost trebled, which indeed maketh the

true distast as all Householders finde, and thereon feede their households with flesh, and otherwise. this fish victuall being now obtained by Merchandize, which indeed is of our owne staple commodity, whereon groweth this penury to the poore, this great price to others, this difvie to all, and in thefe the Kings, the Kingdomes loffe: yet notwithstanding there is such quantity of herring, besides other fish confumed amongst vs, that Hitchcockes alloweth 10000 Lasts for our prouision of herring to be spent here in the Realme; so thatit would faue at home 100000 pounds of treasure, which to our shame and losse the Hollanders carryeth away, cuen for our owne prouision: besides, that provision is of the worst, such as they call Roopeficke, & fuch as they are forbidden to bring home. Now to be served of our worst, whereas we might be our owne caruers, and to give our gold for that we may have for nothing; judge of the loffe, of the indignity: and as wee may eafily remedy this by our owne industry, so we cannot otherwise excuse the fault. Our gracious Prince, no quefion, being ready to affift vs herein by the same 1399 the Art fauourable authority which other Trades for their of making benefite tafte most plentifully of, by forbidding growne to the fale and vecering of herring to his loyall fub- good perfectiiects by any forrainer or stranger whatsoeuer; on, King Henry and in Holland it is not lawfull for them to buy hibited the inany of our Herring, if they bee brought thither; uention of forrainemadenay, if wee bring any thither they are burned, be cloth. fides what other effects of his incomparable clemency would bleffe our industries heerein, hee

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being Lord Paramount of these Seas where this similar food groweth, and which now is taken by strangers, and therefore hee would not questionlesse allow strangers to eate up the soode that was prouided for the children; the crummes we would not enuy them, though wee are now sed under

their Table.

Now farther it may be alleaged, that we can veter no such quantity, nor can affoord no such penyworth: For the first, that must arise out of our dilligence, no question we once attaining the Art of the Flemish vsage of these Herring, they will bee in as great estimation as the Hollanders, in Normandy, Nants, Burdeaux, Rochell, and other fuch Countries; for which, returne is made of Wine and Woad, for which is alwaies paid ready gold, with a number of other commodities: They will bee in as great estimation in the East Countries , Reuel , Rie, Ruflie, Danske, Poland, Denmarke, the returnes whereof are fet downe in Gentleman, and the quantity of Herring that these fore-named Countries consume is infinite; therefore though the Hollanders spend more Fish and Herring by much in their Countries then wee doe, yet it is their forraine Trade with all other Nations that is their Basis, else they could neuer employ fo many Shippes, nor gaine such wealth, or get such strength thereby: And in all these places wee can and doe Trade, and all their returnes wee neede and vie, and therefore may vtter them in as great a quantity as they doc. Then

Then for the affoording of Herrring and Fish at as good a rate as they can, let any confider of the likelihood in our behalfe, first it standeth with reason if wee haue the like vessels, wee can goe with as few men, and our fishermen on the Coast, by divers reports can live as hardly as they and let any judge of the hardnesse when the principall time of fishing for Heiring is in Seprember and October, and a fixe weckes time, and they are almost in fight of our owne Coasts; and befides good provision of butter and cheefe and Beere, they have the plenty of the fea-fish : then this way wee may affoord as good penyworths as they; but I goe further, and fay that wehaue great vantages of them.

The feas be our owne, therefore wee journey. not fo farre as the Hollander doth, whereby likewiseour trauaile and charge must bee lighter, our ports, harbours and roades be at hand; nay, which is more, all vtensiles an appurtenances belonging to fripping as is before shewed (Pitch and Tarre excepted) are found in our owne land; whereas they with great cost and paines & hazard fetch them from fixe seuerall places: so then wee shall bee able to'affoord better cheape then the Hollanders; and fo weemay fell when they cannot, and fo the English shall and may wea-You English, ry them, and weare outthole floutes wherewith we will make our poore Fisher-men are scorned: for if they you glad to bee put by the vetering of their Herrings a- thooes. broade, they will bee driven to leave their great hips, and fish in smaller vessels neere the

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shore to serue their owne turnes, as her etofore. they have caused vs to doe; when as likewise on euery tempest they openly triumph ouer vs for not taking the bleffings of God powred into our

lappes.

These hinderances obiected taken away, wee may now refort againe to the sweete fountaine of profite; which besides that it watereth our private estates with the continual spring of great gaine. keepeth in our treasure, which exceedingly now wasteth, bringeth in all commodities that either the East and North Countries, France, or Flaunders affoords even for this barter; it runneth into the fea of the Kings cnstome, the venting onely of tenne thousand last of Herring beyond sea, commeth to five thousand pounds after the rate of the ordinary poundage, besides the custome of Cod and Ling, very neere as valuable as the benefit of Herring, the particular view wherof is fet downe by him whom I have so often named, and in whose booke you may fee the greatnesse of the custome amounting to aboue 50000 pound starling that accrueth to those Countries out of this fishing Trade; and yet all this to them is nothing: their keeping in their treasure, their carrying away our tteasure, their aboundance with all other commodities, their greatnesse of their custome this way, is nothing in regard of their profit, honor, fafety, that their increase of shipping, increase of Marriners this way begetteth to themselues, amongst all nations to their state.

The life of the fea is in shipping, nay one may

fay to shippes, Mare non est mare, vos estis mare, the beauty of the sea is in shipping, and sure the Poets assuming Venus to be the daughter of the sea, might meane a shippe by her: for hee vna Venus omnium surripuit Veneres; and this little land of the Hollanders, exceeded in quantity by Norfolke and Susfolke, have gotten this sea, have gained this Venus; England, Seotland, France and Spaine for shipping and sea faring men not answerable to them,

and all spawned out of fish and fishing.

There hath beene numbred in fight two thoufand faile of Buffes, and other good veffels gone out to fea at once of the Hollanders, and there hath beene found by computation some thirty seuen thonfand Fishermen in divers forts of vessels at one time employed herein; hence proceedeth their great vndertakings, and prodigious aduenturing to all places: hereby they out-goe vs, and ouer-beare all trades where euer they come. Wee thinke the West Indie gold to be the cause of the pride and presumption of Spaniards; we may asfure our felues that our North Indies countervaile that treasure, and are the onely confidence of the Hollander even by breeding fea-men, and increafing of shipping in that aboundance, as that hereby they both swarme enery where, and France, Spaine and the East Countries are full of their Thipping; hence they fetch our coales, and carry them abroad from Norway and Danske they bring vs all commodities, and carry forth ours at a farre better rate then we can our selues : they have filled Mosconie whence we are emptied with thither shipping,

shipping, and the Straights abound with them, once our possession: they go into, nay they arme in the West Indies where we may not bee seene; and in the East Indies they have had long fetled factories before vs, and have foure men to one of ours there, and goebeyond as farre, besides the number in store of goodly shipping; whereby, as they hinder our trade, so they forbeare not (which I cannot but write with stomacke) the honour of our King and kingdome, as prefuming fomtimes to call themselves English, and presend Embasfage, and prefents from his Maiefty, which they did to the King of Siam. In other places calling the Crowne and State of England into comparifon, which made the King of Ashem aske captaine Best whether the King of England, or the King of Holland were the greater Monarke.

Besides, what an infinite number of shippes and men of warre have they alwayes in a readinesse at home, and as the In-keeper of Chales, fayd to his gueft, admiring tantam ferculorum varietatem, it was with art all cookt out of porke; this their store, this their aboundance is raised all out of fishing; Who then would not be moued? Who would not be stirred vp therewith? Who would not goea fithing? You fee what want wee have of thipping. what want we have of marriners, what discouragements we have in trades, what wants our men are in. When N saman the Sirian complained to Elizens of his leprofie, he was bid wash himselfe in Iordan seuen times; hee looked for other miraculous courses to be taken by the Prophet, and could hardly

hardly be perswaded thereto, because Abna and Pharphar flouds of Damascus were better: Nasman was a Heathen, and had neuer any experience of Gods lorden, yet he was in the end perfwaded: to supply our wants, to satisfie our hunger, to heale our diseases, there is not a river but a fea shewen vs, and that not in another king. dome, but in our owne, wee are are but bidden goe and take fish out of it; wee are Christians. and it is God that hath provided this remedy, and wee fee by experience no water like ours, and we fee our neighbours from every place reforting thereto and healing themselves thereby: you see how it concerneth vs, let vs in the end likewife bee perswaded. What the number is of our seamen bred and employed by all forts of fea-trades, (our pettie fishings excepted) may easily bee gest at; and whatfoeuer it may amount to, if out of our whole Land there bee but foure hundred Buffes built, and fet forth of seuenty tunne the peece, there are in two yeares nine thousand marriners more then was in the land before: let men of experience and state judge of the proportion by the way of comparison, every one can perceive the increase simply, besides the report of some of our best Marriners, these thus bred, proue not onely equall, but better able then any bred otherwise for sea-affaires and publicke feruice.

On this publike profit of fishing thus spred abroad the maintenance of Hauens and Hauen-townes in England besides, have no small dependancie, and are so materiall to the land, so plainly vnderstood flood of all his maiesties subjects; and so well wished to by Hischeockes and Gemleman, that it is enough for me but to poynt at them; we all know the vie of them, they shew the decay, and this Art the reparation and maintenance of them.

The vie of this fishing is implied much in the profite, but more eminent by the confideration againe of the infinite number otherwise of Idle people, and out of imployment; onely by this Art it is reported not one goeth a begging in all the Low Countries; and what a number of people have wee, that now destitute of meanes, may this way have a calling? It is a grieuous finne Idlenesse, and bringeth forth, as we fee, horrible effects: to get a living by the sweat of our browes is the ordinance of God, and this way there is a recompence. There were found in Tarmouth the last yeare three or foure hundred, and those of honest disposition, that wanted means, and how many hundred more are there in other places that would gladly be thus vsed? Hitchcockes alloweth to euery one in this imployment twenty pounds yearely, besides his dyer, for his reward, a good fauour to honest men that now have no meanes; and this onely out of two voyages for Herring : a number of Carpententers and Shipwrights shall be fet a work, Coopers bufied, numbers of people making lines, ropes, cables, dreffers of hempe, spinners of thrid, makers of Nets, bred; many falt-houses fer vp, befides what store of poore people, all along on the fea coasts, which are now very poore and idle in Emfland and water to bee vied in fplitting of fifth, wathing of fish, packing, falting, carrying and recarrying

carrying of fish; and on these foresaid occupations depend an infinite number of servants, boyes & daily labourers for the vse of things needfull. Nylus, whose fertility is enuied, affoordeth not so many sorts of fish, of monsters, as this fishing entertaineth for to of people; which humbly committing to the high disposer of all hearts, & to the due consideration thereby of his ministers here on earth, I will leave further to enlarge, and shut vp this abrupt discourse with the allusion of that of Basil to this sea-businesse, Putei dum hauriuntur spe-

ciofiores.

Now for a Corollary to all these imperfect lines. whereas in the superficiall survey of want of shipping, we find most of our sea-trades either decaying or at a flay; let me out of themfelues, without offence, propound the confideration of one remedy thereto, enen by a freedom of Traffique for all his Maiesties subiects to all places; hereby his maiesties customes will increase, the nauy & sea-men will receive nourishment out of more imployment, the whole incorporation of merchants reap comfort in that they may communicate with all adventures, and the vniverfal body of the fubiects of the land content, in that they may become merchants, being very ready in this aduentrous world to make new discoueries, whereas now otherwise merchandize forting & fetled in companies, confineth merchants into those limits that private orders tie them in, so that they may not helpe themfelues through any discouragements in one trade, but by fure and submission of themselves to the other; though, I fay, their trades faile them; and o-

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ther haue too much, nor may any else of the kingdome come amongst them, though neuer so able and well disposed, valesse they come in on such conditions as the victor pleaseth to propound. A thing in ordinary sonce somewhat harsh to sollow, Subjects and equall Citizens in this great Monarke, to be so serviceablic tyed and subject one vato the other, and the rather for that those priviledges by the indulgencie of the Prince being granted as a reward to some for their industries, and exemplary to others encouragements are strictly vsed to the eternall benefite of a few, and the wrong of all the residue.

The French company manifesteth this plainly, which if it had continued, (and it beganne but the other day) had undone all the Westerne

men.

The Moscowie company declareth the same, as being granted on condition of serving his Maie-sty of all materials (as Flaxe, Oyle, Waxe, Tallow, Cordage) belonging to shipping, whereas now it is supplyed by strangers even ten for one ship, and those double our burdens; and notwithstanding they doe not performe, and have let fall their trade, yet none may enter but on their conditions.

The Greenland company, out of the pretence of their first Whale-hunting, keepe all Fishermen, notwithstanding they knew and vsed those seas, from further resort thither, and some Marchants of Hull were taken by them in that journey, and brought backe; notwithstanding, as I am informed, those countrey-men found it first.

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Maine twixt it and New found Land to bee their fee-simple, whereby many honest and able minds disposed to aduenture are hindred, and stopped from repairing to those places they either knew or would discouer vnfound euen for

fishing.

The East India men, not able to furnish those places they refort to, keepe out other from comming amongst them, and to looke into those parts they know not, and would give out of their largenesse and riches entertainement to all the Marchants in the Land; besides, how tedious and costly they, and all other Companies, make into their owne Affociates, when as out of orders, and cause of vpholding their Trade, men can neither dispose of their owne as they would, non haue the benefite under a long time: Besides, how private do they, and other Companies, make it. when as out of orders and mainetaining their Trade, how plentifully soeuer the commodities are brought in, and at what advantage focuer they buy them, they will bee fure to keepe up the price, either by sending forth most part of the commodities abroad, or elfe by buying all others into their hands; that other is hard for the owner sometimes, but he doth it in his ownewrong; but to the buyer this is alwaies iniuft for that he suffereth against his will, the Common wealth being made private suffereth by all; this, that, the first and all the more discontentful, in that besides that al other Nations refort freely to all those places whence they keepe out their owne Country-men, the like fallion. H. 3

fashion of Companies and Societies is not vsed in all Christendome else; it being lawfull and vsuall to all other amongst themselves promiscuousely to frequent and communicate with places, and Trades one by the other; nay, this separation of Trading, and excepting of subjects from places, betweene divers Princes that had but peace one with the other, was ford mired and difallowed all anm.15. of, formerly, that Charles the 5 Emperour, being moned by the Portugals, being vnder their owne absolute King then, to forbeare the East Indie Trade, because they had found it; answered, that hee had peace with them, and therefore he would haue Trade with them, for they were not his friends, but his enemies, that would hinder him of it: How much more we murmuring at this miquity, may affirme that we are all Britaines, all fubiects to one royall King, all combined together in one naturalbleague, and therefore not to be barred from Trading equally to all places; which his gracious Maiesty, together with the whole affent of the high Court of Parliament openly profelleth, when as there was enacted a free liberty for all his Maichies Subjects, to Trade imothe Dominions of Spaine, Portugall, and France, with moft fufficient reasons, therfore for the encrease of ship. ping, marriners, thousands of Handicraftes men, of prices of their owne commodities and angmentation of them together, with theiplency of forraine commodites, and a cheapneffe of them. & the bettering of his Maiesties customes. No one man ever invented all Sciences nor any Marchant

found all places, yet they make a compensation

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one to another : Society first beganne, and knowledge and civility by communication, but if the world in his infancy had bene refolued to have held private what they had in possession, and to haue concealed what they knew, there had not onely bene no civility, but no fociety; yet as the first maintainers of society had their honour, the first inventors of Sciences and Arts their rewards, and in all well disposed States, the industries of those that do benefite them have their encourage. ments: fo is not this my proposition of free Trade otherwise entertained, then that there should bee a due respect had of all worthy aduenturers, an efpeciall confideration of the charges and hazard of the first discouerers, which the solertious Hollander examples vs, by forbidding their owne Subiects to trade to those places which some particular purse hath, or shall, finde out, before that the first founders have received reasonable benefite of their paines and charges, allowing them some fixe returnes to their owne private adventures. before any elfefer thitherward, If those adventures. or returnes were encreased here for the finders. content, and profit, there is no man would grudge it, but to keepe others out for ener, valeffe they pay, and fubmit themselves according to their order, and to their gouemement, or vinder the pretence of one place found to include more then was ever meant, feemes very iniurious. Againe, my Proposition is not any way so tumultuous, as that thereby I would exclude all order and forme of gouernment, in Trades, or otherwise to intend a promiscuous kind of calling, or rather confusion oT

of all force, who knoweth north the Commonwealth confilesh. Non extraction the medice feder medice, & Agricole, as also that there must be an Occonomical and discrette partition and proportion among the members; Divers Trades to maintaine the general body Comerce; I have onely pointed at some abstractions, but as the nouice, travelling through firange Countries, Tapmande, ortanguem Canis ad Nilum. The profectsung of this argument would draw on a larger difcourfe then all the whole former, and would then exceed a Corollary, and detaine the Reader too long. Neither like I the iffue of medling, when men tire themselves with controlling of publique magers; yet many times cannot manage their owneaffaires, Imake no intrufton into Merchants Myllerics, neitherdeline to pry into the States iecrefy. Iowas a foolish complaint of the Poet, Cur aliquid vidit it is much more for me to fay Cur aliquid feripfi? I am fo farre from giving any cause of publicke offence, that I would not justly prouoke any primate person. I was borne in the Citty, and live amongst Sea-men, and as some Almanackemakers when they pretend exactnesse in their Calculations, though they doe but roug, whe to appropriate their observations to the place they have in a fo I writing with the same knowledge, would say I desire good to the Meridian of these two places motwithstanding as they say also. These may ferue alike to all the Land.

